

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

From a recent telephone conversation with the Examiner, it appears that the Examiner agrees that the feature of the invention recited in Claim 2 is not taught by the Japanese reference relied upon in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). This feature has now been added to Claim 1; Claim 2 has been cancelled; and Claim 11 has been made dependent upon Claim 1.

The feature just referred to is apparent in Fig. 1, for example, of Applicants' drawings, wherein an axis of steering shaft S, extending perpendicular to the sheet of drawing at the center of the steering shaft S, substantially intersects a line that connects centers of the two fixing members 16 and 17 at opposite sides of the steering shaft.

This application is now believed to be clearly in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10142) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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